

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

12860 CROSSROADS PARKWAY SOUTH • CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA 91746
Tel (562) 908-8400 • Fax (562) 908-0459



BRYCE YOKOMIZO
Director

LISA NUÑEZ
Chief Deputy



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Fifth District

October 31, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH K-STEP
MONTESSORI, INC. TO PROVIDE CHILD CARE SERVICES AT DPSS
CROSSROADS CHILD CARE CENTER**

(ALL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), to execute an Agreement, substantially similar to the attached Agreement, with K-Step Montessori, Inc. to provide child day care services at the DPSS' Crossroads Child Care Center located on-site at 12900 Crossroads Parkway South, City of Industry, California 91746, effective December 1, 2006, or the day after execution, whichever is later, through November 30, 2011. This is a non-financial Agreement; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.
2. Delegate authority to the Director, DPSS, to prepare and execute amendments to the Agreement with K-Step Montessori, Inc. when a change is necessitated by additional and necessary services that are required in order for the contractor to comply with changes in federal, State or County requirements. The approval of County Counsel and the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) will be obtained prior to execution of such amendments, and the DPSS Director will notify the CAO in writing within ten business days after execution.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

With your Board's approval, DPSS will execute a non-financial Agreement, substantially similar to the attached Agreement, with K-Step Montessori, Inc. to provide child care services at the Crossroads Child Care Center.

Implementation of Strategic Plans and Goals

The Agreement is consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal #5 Children and Families' Well-Being: Improve the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County, as measured by the achievements in the five outcome areas adopted by your Board: good health; economic well-being; safety and survival; social and emotional well-being; and educational/workforce readiness.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

This is a non-financial Agreement for the provision of child care services. Parents in need of child care not the County, pay for the child care services. The County provides the physical facilities, utilities, upkeep, equipment and supplies. The estimated annual cost for the Crossroads Child Care Center is \$161,200 and is included in the Department's 2006, adopted budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONAL/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Crossroads Child Care Center operated by Plaza De La Raza Head Start, Inc. opened on March 21, 2001. However, as a result of a financial debt of approximately \$1 million, Plaza De La Raza Head Start, Inc. is unable to operate the Crossroads Child Care Center. As such, we have selected Zafira Firdosy, Executive Director of K-Step Montessori, Inc. to resume responsibility of operating the Crossroads Child Care Center.

Ms. Firdosy has been working as a child care provider with the Montessori curriculum for more than 27 years and currently operates seven Montessori Child Care Centers in Los Angeles County, which include DPSS El Monte Annex and DPSS El Monte Telstar Child Care Centers, and both facilities are at full capacity.

Ms. Firdosy has consistently met the performance standards required in her existing Agreement, and is an excellent partner in providing child care services to DPSS employees and CalWORKs children. We believe Ms. Firdosy will bring the same performance standards to the Crossroads Child Care Center.

The Agreement has been approved as to form by County Counsel. Approval of this Agreement will not result in unauthorized disclosure of confidential information, and will be in full compliance with federal, State and County regulations.

CONTRACT PROCESSING

As this is a non-financial Agreement, no solicitation was required. State regulations allow contracting without competitive solicitation when the services are provided at no cost to the County.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Providing child care services will have a significant positive impact on the County by providing: 1) increased child care capacity; 2) quality on-site child care services to County employees; and 3) the opportunity for CalWORKs participants enrolled in the Careers in Child Care Training Program to experience hands-on training.

CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted stamped Board Letter and three original signed copies to the Director, DPSS; and one adopted stamped copy to:

Office of County Counsel
Attn: Sr. Deputy County Counsel
Vicki Kozikoujekian
500 W. Temple St., #602
Los Angeles, California 90012

Respectfully submitted,



Bryce Yokomizo, Director

BY:nv

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Policy Roundtable for Child Care